

# The Calvin Ball Bulletin

## District Two

September 2011 Edition

### Inside this issue:

Welcome!	1
Labor Day	1
Bay Wise Garden Tour	2
September 11 Commemorations	2
WomenFest 2011	3
Disaster Volunteer Training	3
Looks for Life	4
Transportation Advocates Meeting	4
Choose Civility	5
OM Cultural Arts Festival	5
Entrepreneur Expo	5

## Welcome!

It's a pleasure to connect with my constituents and highlight informational programs, services and area events happening throughout our District Two community and Howard County.

Know of any great community events? Please share them with my office so that I may review them for inclusion in this newsletter!

For your convenience, I have included at the end of this edition

opportunities on how you can get involved in our community through volunteering or participation on County Boards.

Please feel free to share this Bulletin with friends, neighbors, and community organizations. If you don't already receive this bulletin directly and would like to subscribe, email me at [cball@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:cball@howardcountymd.gov) and I will be happy to add you to our distribution list!



Dr. Calvin Ball, District 2

## 11<sup>th</sup> Annual BikeAbout!

Stay home for Labor Day... Save gas and have fun in Columbia! The Columbia Association's 11<sup>th</sup> annual BikeAbout and Town Center walking tour returns and will be held on **Saturday, September 3, 2011** beginning at the **Downtown Columbia Lakefront**. Participants in the BikeAbout may begin the ride anytime between **9:30am and 10:30am**. The Town Center walking tour will begin at 10:30am.

This year's route will take riders through Town Center, Wilde Lake, Harper's Choice and Hickory Ridge, highlighting history in Harper's Choice and the Middle Patuxent Valley and traversing some of the most picturesque pathways in Hobbit's Glen and Clary's Forest. Walkers will follow a route to Oakland Mills, explore a historic cemetery and outdoor sculpture as well as the art and architecture in Town Center.

Pre-registration for BikeAbout is encouraged and forms are available [www.columbiaarchives.org/files/pdfs/11BikeRegistration.pdf](http://www.columbiaarchives.org/files/pdfs/11BikeRegistration.pdf), at CA Headquarters, 10221 Wincopin Circle, at the Columbia Archives, 10227 Wincopin Circle. For more info, call **Barbara Kellner** at 410-715-3103 or email [Columbia.Archives@ColumbiaAssociation.com](mailto:Columbia.Archives@ColumbiaAssociation.com).

## Labor Day Has Arrived!

In observance of Labor Day, **Monday, September 5, 2011**, Howard County Government offices, courts, animal shelters and the landfill will be closed. There will be no trash, recycling or yard waste collection; instead the County will operate on a slide schedule. 9-1-1 Centers, Police & Fire departments remain open 24-hours. Offices will re-open Tuesday, September 6, 2011.

Whether you're spending time with family and friends, having a cookout or just relaxing, I hope everyone has a fun, relaxing and safe Labor Day holiday weekend!

### Thank you for your patience!

A project to replace a failing water main along Meadowridge Rd from US1 to 1,000ft north of Old Stockbridge Dr in Elkridge has begun. Construction will take place **weekdays 8am-4pm** and should be completed by early **March 2012**, weather permitting. For questions or concerns on **Capital Project W-8249**, call **Lisa Brightwell** at 410-313-3440.

## Retirement Planning Seminar!

Engage in a discussion on expectations and realities of retirement. This event will be held on **Thursday, September 8, 2011 7-8pm** at **Kahler Hall, 5440 Old Tucker Row** in Columbia. For questions, call **410-730-0770**.

## BOE Policy Committee Meeting!

On **Monday, September 12, 2011**, the Police Committee of the Board of Education will meet at **1:30pm** in the Conference Room ML2 at the Department of Education, 10910 Route 108 in Ellicott City.

For more details, call **Patti Caplan** at **410-313-6680** or email [Patti\\_Caplan@hcpss.org](mailto:Patti_Caplan@hcpss.org).

## Howard County Redistricting Commission Meetings!

Mark your calendars for important dates on the Howard County Redistricting (Councilmatic) Commission schedule. Listed below are the upcoming meeting dates:

- Worksession: **Thursday, September 8, 2011 7pm**, Columbia/Ellicott Room, George Howard Building, 3430 Court House Drive in Ellicott City
- **FINAL** Public Hearing: **Wednesday, September 21, 2011 7pm**, Banneker Room, George Howard Building, 3430 Court House Drive in Ellicott City.

For more information, call **Theodore Wimberly** at **410-313-3121**.

## Bay-Wise Garden Tour!

You are cordially invited to tour a local Ellicott City garden which demonstrates Bay-Wise practices designed to improve the health of the Chesapeake Bay. Visitors can learn how to control runoff, minimize the use of fertilizers, choose appropriate plants, and learn general garden and landscape ways that are beneficial to the environment.

This event is **FREE** and will be held on **Saturday, September 10, 2011 1-4pm** at **10130 Maxine Street** in Ellicott City.

## September 11 Commemorations!

In remembrance to those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001 and to honor those men and women who dedicate their lives to serve and protect us every day, there will be a couple of events being held in Howard County to mark the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9-11.

On **Sunday, September 11** at **8:30am** in **Centennial Park, South Entrance**, a special remembrance ceremony will be held where I will be joined by many elected officials to offer words of gratitude and mark this special occasion.

Following this ceremony, the 20<sup>th</sup> annual Police Pace 5K and 1 Mile Fun Run takes place on **Sunday, September 11**. To learn more or to register, visit [www.policpace.com](http://www.policpace.com).

## Going Green... Master Gardner Programs Available!

Master Garden Programs will now be featured at The Other Barn. They are **FREE**, informative and fun!

- **Wednesday, September 14, 7pm** – Fall Vegetable Gardening
- **Wednesday, October 16, 6:30pm** – Nature Crafts for kids ages 5-11 (accompanied by an adult)
- **Wednesday, February 15, 7pm** – Composting

For a complete description, visit [www.oaklandmills.org](http://www.oaklandmills.org).

## PlanHoward... Your County. Your Plan!

What's your Plan for Howard in 2030? The latest update of the General Plan will provide a framework for enhancing our economy, environment and quality of life and is aimed at aligning policies and actions with the challenges and opportunities of the time. Now we need your help to shape a shared vision for Howard County's future!

Mark your calendars for the General Plan Task Force Fall Schedule. Listed below are the upcoming meeting dates:

- **Wednesday, September 14, 2011 7-9pm**, Florence Bain Center, 5470 Ruth Keeton Way in Columbia.
- **Wednesday, October 12, 2011 7-9pm**, Robinson Nature Center, 6692 Cedar Lane in Columbia.
- **Wednesday, November 9, 2011 7-9pm**, North Laurel Community Center, 9411 Whiskey Bottom Road in Laurel
- **Monday, December 14, 2011 7-9pm**, Gary J. Arthur Community Center, 2400 Route 97 in Cooksville.

For more information, visit <http://www.planhoward.org/>.

A Citizen Task Force has been created to provide advice on this 20 year plan. The County's Planning Board held a series of meetings including work sessions and public meetings and the draft Guidelines were submitted to the County Council on Tuesday, July 5 for consideration and adoption. You may view **Council Resolution 117-2011** online at

[www.co.ho.md.us/CountyCouncil/CCdocs/CR117-2011.pdf](http://www.co.ho.md.us/CountyCouncil/CCdocs/CR117-2011.pdf). For more details, visit <http://planhoward.org/>.

## Charter Review Commission Meetings Continue!

On March 7, 2011, the Council approved Resolution 10-2011 appointing the 2011 Charter Review Commission consisting of 15 Howard County residents. The Commissions meetings will all be held at 9am in the Columbia Room of the George Howard Building unless otherwise noted. For more information, email [charterreview@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:charterreview@howardcountymd.gov) or call 410-313-2001. Listed below are the upcoming meeting dates:

- **Wednesday, September 14, 2011 7pm**, North Laurel Community Center, 9411 Whiskey Bottom Road, Laurel, MD.
- **Tuesday, September 20, 2011 7pm**, George Howard Building, 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD
- **Wednesday, October 5, 2011 7pm**, Gary Arthur Community Center, 2400 Route 97, Cooksville, MD

The official website for the Commission can be accessed at

[www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/CC\\_CharterReviewCommiss2011.htm](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/CC_CharterReviewCommiss2011.htm).

## WomenFest 2011!

The years third annual WomenFest will be held on **Thursday, September 15, 2011 from 10am-3pm** at the **Gary J. Arthur Community Center, 2400 Route 97 in Cooksville, MD**. It focuses on women's health, wellness, fashion and beauty and will offer a day of **FREE** interactive programming designed to inspire women to live more balanced, healthy and fulfilled lives.

Attendees can participate in belly dancing, Zumba, Bollywood demonstrations while sitting in on seminars, participating in health screenings and visiting an array of vendors and exhibitors.

For more info, email Courtney Barkley at [CBarkley@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:CBarkley@howardcountymd.gov), [glenwoodsc@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:glenwoodsc@howardcountymd.gov) or call 410-313-5440.

## Disaster Volunteer Training!

As part of September being National Preparedness Month, the Volunteer Center of Howard County will be hosting two training sessions for volunteers interested in helping staff a disaster Volunteer Mobilization Center (VMC) during times of disaster and recovery. The purpose of the VMC is to coordinate community needs with spontaneous volunteers who come forward to help with tasks such as clean-up or information distribution.

A classroom training session will be held on **Thursday, September 15 6:30-8:30pm** at the **Volunteer Center Serving Howard County** in Columbia. A simulation training session will be held on Saturday, September 17 11am-2pm at the Community Room in Clarksville. Interested participants are encouraged to attend both training sessions.

Registration is requested by **September 13**. For more information or to register, call **410-715-3179** or email [Pam@VolunteerHoward.org](mailto:Pam@VolunteerHoward.org). The Volunteer Center Serving Howard County is located at 10221 Wincopin Circle in Columbia. The Community Room is located at 5000 Signal Bell Lane in Clarksville.

**September is  
"National  
Preparedness Month"  
here in Howard  
County!**

With the recent earthquake and hurricane that rolled through Maryland, now is a great time to prepare, plan and stay informed of any upcoming weather forecasts and plan for any potential emergencies!

For more details, visit  
[http://community.fema.gov/  
connect.ti/READYNPM](http://community.fema.gov/connect.ti/READYNPM).

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Open House for Suicide Prevention!

Grassroots Crisis Intervention will host an open house on **Friday, September 16, 2011** from **4-7pm** at the **Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center, 6700 Freetown Road** in Columbia MD. It will feature educational seminars on suicide prevention and mental illness as well as a panel discussion on surviving suicide loss. Additionally, there will be information tables and individuals from the National Alliance on Mental Illness, the Maryland Chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention and the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

This event is **FREE** and open to the public. There will also be information on means restriction and gun locks available at no cost. Registration is recommended. For more details, call **410-531-6677**.

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## Summer's End 5K Family Run/Walk!

On **Sunday, September 18, 2011**, the Summer's End 5K Family Run/Walk will be held to benefit the Elkridge Food Pantry and Garden. Activities will include post-race food, music and family fun! Entry fee begins at \$20 per person, \$10 per children 12 and under, and \$40 for a family of 4 or more. The course will begin at the Elkridge Food Pantry & Garden at 8am with t-shirt pickup and late registration from 7-7:45am.

This event will take place rain or shine. For more info, visit [www.summersend5k.org](http://www.summersend5k.org).

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## Looks for Life!

The Looks Salon and Spa is hosting a fundraiser to raise funds and awareness for suicide prevention in memory of salon owner Marilyn Petersen's son, Patrick Jameson, who committed suicide in 2002. This event will be held on **Sunday, September 18** from **11am-4pm** at **Looks Salon and Spa, 6822 Oak Hall Lane, Suite A** in Columbia and will feature discounted haircuts, blowdrys, manicures, eyebrow waxes and massages as well as a raffle, silent auction, music and refreshments.

This fundraiser will benefit Grassroots Crisis Intervention. For more info, call **410-381-9030** or visit [www.looksllc.com](http://www.looksllc.com).

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## Transportation Advocates Meeting!

The Transportation Advocates will be hosting their next meeting on **Thursday, September 22, 2011 7:30-9am** in the Bain Center, 5470 Ruth Keeton Way in Columbia. September's presentation will be about the Long-Range Transportation Plan of the Baltimore Metropolitan Council. It will feature a draft plan and provide an opportunity for the audience to comment. The presenters will include Howard County's Department of Planning & Zoning Marsha McLaughlin and her staff.

For more details, contact **Sharonlee Vogel** by emailing [sharonleevogel@gmail.com](mailto:sharonleevogel@gmail.com).

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## Project Literacy Awards Ceremony!

Project Literacy is a signature educational initiative of the Howard County Library System providing adults with FREE instruction in basic reading, writing and basic math skills. Join us on **Tuesday, September 27, 2011** from **7-8:30pm** in the **Banneker Room** of the **George Howard Building** to recognize students who completed the high school diploma program, received U.S. citizenship, maintained outstanding attendance, and/or attained significant educational gains.

Volunteer tutors also will receive certificates of recognition and a reception will follow the ceremony. For more Info, call **410-313-7750**.

## U.S. Route 1 Sidewalk Construction!

A Howard County construction project (Capital Project C-0285) will install a sidewalk along U.S. Route 1 in Elkridge and will include installation of a new sidewalk, pedestrian ramps, accessible pedestrian signals and roadway striping in two locations: southbound U.S. Rt 1 from Ducketts Ln to Troy Hill Drive and at the intersection of northbound U.S. Rt 1 and Meadowridge Road. Weather permitting, the project is expected to be completed by **late September**.

Temporary lane shifts and closures can be expected during construction hours, weekdays from 9am-4pm. Flagging operations will be in place to direct traffic as needed and signs will be posted to advise motorists of the construction. For questions or concerns, call **Lisa Brightwell** at 410-313-3440 or email [publicworks@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:publicworks@howardcountymd.gov).

## Choose Civility Symposium!

Examine how civil understanding, respect and behavior can have a positive impact in helping to eradicate bullying. Through the partnership of the Howard County Library, Howard County Public School System, and Howard Community College, the Choose Civility Symposium will be held on **Wednesday, October 5 7-9:30pm** in the **Smith Theater at Howard Community College**.

This event is **FREE** and open to the public. The symposium will be moderated by noted NPR journalist Korva Coleman, who will engage our experts with perspectives from academia, psychology and behavioral science. Featured panelist Rosalind Wiseman is an internationally recognized author and educator whose work aims to help parents, educators and young people successfully navigate the social challenges of young adulthood.

For more info, call 410-313-7750 or visit [www.choosecivility.org](http://www.choosecivility.org).

## Cultural Arts Festival in Oakland Mills!

Save the date and come out for the Cultural Arts Festival on **Saturday, October 15, 2011 from 11am-4pm** at the Oakland Mills Village Center. Vendor applications are still being accepted and are available during Summer 2011. For more details, call **Brigitta Warren**, 410-730-4610 or email [omcaadmin@columbiavillages.org](mailto:omcaadmin@columbiavillages.org).

## 2011 50+ Expo... Save the Date!

Plan to join us for the 13<sup>th</sup> annual 50+EXPO on **Friday, October 21 2011 from 9am-4pm** at **Wilde Lake High School** in Columbia, MD. Featured are more than 140 vendors and exhibitors, educational seminars, information and resources, plus all day entertainment and much more. This event is **FREE** and open to the public.

For more information, visit [www.howardcountymd.gov/OA/50+expo.htm](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/OA/50+expo.htm) or call **Lisa Madera** at 410-313-5990 or email [LMadera@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:LMadera@howardcountymd.gov).

## 2011 Entrepreneur EXPO: Harnessing the Power of Innovation in MD!

On **Monday, November 14, 2011 from 7:30am-6pm**, the Columbia-based Maryland Technology Development Corp (TEDCP) will partner with key organizations and stakeholders to lead the creation of the first statewide Entrepreneur Expo, "Harnessing the Power of Innovation in Maryland." This full-day event will be held at the BWI Airport Marriott in Linthicum, 1743 West Nursery Road, and will provide informational and educational tracks and a platform for entrepreneurs to share ideas and cultivate important relationships and connections. It will also feature conference programming, including the curation of activities by BETASCAPE, whose mission is to explore the intersection of art and technology.

Most excitingly for entrepreneurs, it will feature an Entrepreneurial Launch Pad session where companies can pitch their products and services for potential investment. Pitches will be lightening fast and the audience will vote for the most valuable pitch. The three companies receiving the most votes will win a cash prize. Interested participants will be able to apply for participation in the Entrepreneurial Launch Pad session during the expo.

For more information, visit [www.innovatemd.com](http://www.innovatemd.com).

## FREE Home Energy Audit Program!

Howard County's new **FREE** Home Energy Audit Program will provide free comprehensive audits to 1,500 households, an estimated savings of approximately of \$250-\$500 to households. The audit is the first step in identifying how much energy a home consumes and evaluate what measures can make the home more energy efficient while saving money on their energy bills and is funded through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants (EECBG) Program.

Applications are available online at <http://livegreenhoward.com/energy-climate/home-energy-audit/> and selections will be made via lottery weekly over the course of the next six months. If selected, you will have 48 hours from notification to participate must agree to provide a 12-month history of their energy usage, be present at the time of the audit and complete a survey six months after the audit to record the efficiency measures implemented.

For questions, email [energyaudit@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:energyaudit@howardcountymd.gov).

## Calling All Youth... Voices for Change Youth Coalition Seeks Your Help!

Are you interested in making positive change in your community by working on issues important to you? Would you like to get to know other students from high schools around the county? Would you like to be a part of the team of students and adults that organize the annual Youth Summit? Then Voices for Change Youth Coalition is for you!

General Student Membership is limited to Howard County high school students (public, private and/or home school) and Howard County 8<sup>th</sup> grade students (public, private and/or home school). Students must be in good standing with their respective school to be eligible. Active membership is defined as participating in at least 60% of the total meetings throughout the year.

Meetings are twice a month on alternating Tuesdays from 5-7pm and dinner is provided. Meetings are held at HC Recreation & Parks located at 7120 Oakland Mills Road in Columbia. For more details, check out the website at [www.HCYouth.org](http://www.HCYouth.org) or contact Meg Mekelburg at [MMekelburg7@verizon.net](mailto:MMekelburg7@verizon.net).

## Free and Reduced Price Meal Application Now Online in Howard County!

The Food & Nutrition Services Department is pleased to announce Howard County is the first school system in Maryland to offer an Online Application for Free and Reduced Price Meals on its website at [www.hcpss.org/foodservice/free.shtml](http://www.hcpss.org/foodservice/free.shtml). This new addition to the website allows parents privacy in completing the application and receiving notification of status. There will also be help in the schools for families who want to use the system but need help with the computer or language assistance.

For more info, call **Mary Klatko**, Director of Food and Nutrition Services at 410-313-6736 or email [Mary\\_Klatko@hcpss.org](mailto:Mary_Klatko@hcpss.org).

## Give the Gift of Independence!

Neighbor Ride launched its volunteer-based transportation service in 2004 with the mission to decrease isolation and improve the quality of life for Howard County's older residents. Today, its dedicated volunteers provide an average of 1,000 trips per month for medical appointments, shopping, social outings, personal care and business, religious services, volunteer activities and other day-to-day needs.

YOU can give seniors the gift of independence by volunteering as a Neighbor Ride driver. Flexible and rewarding daytime, evening and weekend opportunities are available. No set schedule is required. Drivers simply choose to provide rides that are convenient to their homes, offices and daily routines. Parent volunteers are welcome and encouraged to bring their children along for a wonderful experience.

Please contact **Patrice Cerwonka**, **Colleen Konstanzer** or **Rosemary Noble** at 410-884-RIDE (7433) or email [volunteer@neighborride.org](mailto:volunteer@neighborride.org) for more information.



## Foreign Born Information and Referral Network!

The Foreign Born Information and Referral Network, 5999 Harpers Farm Road, Suite 200-E in Columbia needs Spanish-speaking volunteers to greet clients, answer basic questions, make appointments and support the staff. Hours are 9am-1pm or 1-5pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday. Other times may be considered. For more information, call **410-992-1923 x 14**.

## Support Our Local Farmers Markets!

It's that time of year again when we can count on fresh vegetables and fruits from around Howard County. Help support our local farmers by visiting any one of the local farmers markets: East Columbia Library (Hours: **Thursdays 2-6pm**), Howard County General Hospital (Hours: **Fridays 2-6pm**), Glenwood Library (Hours: **Saturdays 9am-12:30pm**) and the Oakland Mills Village Center (Hours: **Sundays 9am-12:30pm**).

## You Asked For It... We Responded. Bulk Trash Pick-Up Returns!

Bulk Trash Item pick-up has resumed but items must be scheduled by calling **410-313-6444** or visiting [www.HowardCountyBulkPickup.org](http://www.HowardCountyBulkPickup.org). These items typically do not fit in trash cans and could include mattresses, chairs, sofas, dressers, tables, etc. Bulk METAL Item pick-up will begin starting **October 1, 2011** and must be scheduled in advance by calling **410-313-6444**. Items must be placed at the curb by 6am (no earlier than 6pm the night before). Please do not block mailboxes or fire hydrants. **NOTE:** It is illegal for anyone except Howard County's contractors to pickup scrap metal at the curb (Howard County Code 18.610)

## Exciting Youth Opportunities to Stay Active and Involved!

One of my missions is to provide awareness of programs within Howard County that provide a positive outlet for our youth. This allows them to channel their inner talent and participate in positive activities. Listed below you will find helpful links for parents and youth.

Howard County Library [www.hclibrary.org/index.php?page=22](http://www.hclibrary.org/index.php?page=22)

FINALLY! Something to Do in Howard County [www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=52321251379](http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=52321251379)

Youth Howard County [www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=47846991445&v=info&ref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=47846991445&v=info&ref=ts)

I encourage you to share this information with friends, families, neighbors and most importantly, your children.

## Start a Neighborhood Watch Program in Your Community!

The Neighborhood Watch Program involves the joint efforts of the Howard county Police Department and the community designed to enhance neighborhood security, heighten the community's power of observation and encourage mutual assistance and concern among neighbors.

For more information, please contact the Howard County Police Department at **410-313-2200**.

## "Guaranteed Ride Home" Comes to Howard County!

A program that gives a **FREE** ride home to commuters who travel to work via mass transit, car-pooling or walking at least twice a week is coming to Howard County. "Guaranteed Ride Home" offers regular commuters a free ride home in a taxi or rental car up to four times a year and is funded by the Maryland Department of Transportation.

To be eligible to participate in the program, commuters must register online at [www.commuterconnections.org](http://www.commuterconnections.org) or call 1-800-745-RIDE (7433).

## Looking for a Job? Use Maryland's Workforce Exchange!

Job seekers in Maryland can now search more than 80,000 presently open and active jobs across Maryland, indicating that while Maryland comes through this national recession, our State's employers ARE hiring! For more info or to apply, visit <https://mwe.dllr.state.md.us/default.asp?SessionUID=a>

## Financial Assistance Corner

We are experiencing an unprecedented economic recession and while Howard County may be consistently identified as one of the wealthiest counties in the United States, our residents and families are feeling the squeeze of this economic crisis. I receive a lot of calls to my office asking for referrals and county assistance so I wanted to take a moment and dedicate a section in my Newsletter identifying resources to help our residents save money. In addition to the information below, I encourage residents to visit our Howard County Government's website at [www.co.ho.md.us/servicesresidents\\_financialassistance.htm](http://www.co.ho.md.us/servicesresidents_financialassistance.htm). On this site, you will find resources for a variety of assistance including but not limited to child care, food, energy, water and housing.

**TAX CREDITS:** The most quick and efficient way to reduce your expenses is to consider the tax credits available to you as Howard County residents. For your convenience, I have listed examples below as well as their respective online application; however you can find a complete list and instructions on how to apply at [www.howardcountymd.gov/DOF/DOF\\_RealPropertyTaxInformation.htm](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/DOF/DOF_RealPropertyTaxInformation.htm) or by calling 410-313-4076. Please note that some of these credits are based upon fund availability, so please contact the office directly for the most up-to-date information.

**Senior Tax Credit:** [www.howardcountymd.gov/DOF/DOFDOCS/SeniorCreditApp.pdf](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/DOF/DOFDOCS/SeniorCreditApp.pdf)

**Homeowners Tax Credit:** [www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/HTC-60.pdf](http://www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/HTC-60.pdf)

**Homestead Tax Credit:** [www.dat.state.md.us](http://www.dat.state.md.us)

**Daycare Provider Tax Credit:** [www.howardcountymd.gov/DOF/DOFDOCS/Daycare.pdf](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/DOF/DOFDOCS/Daycare.pdf)

**Surviving Spouse of Fallen Law Enforcement Officer or Rescue Worker:**

[www.howardcountymd.gov/DOF/DOFDOCS/Emergencyworker.pdf](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/DOF/DOFDOCS/Emergencyworker.pdf)

**Disabled Law Enforcement Officer or Rescue Worker:**

[www.howardcountymd.gov/DOF/DOFDOCS/DisabledPoliceRescueWorker.pdf](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/DOF/DOFDOCS/DisabledPoliceRescueWorker.pdf)

**Community Associations Tax Credit:** [www.howardcountymd.gov/DOF/DOFDOCS/CommAssoc.pdf](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/DOF/DOFDOCS/CommAssoc.pdf)

**Trash Collection Fee Credit:** [www.howardcountymd.gov/DOF/DOFDOCS/TrashFeeApp.pdf](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/DOF/DOFDOCS/TrashFeeApp.pdf)

## Mentors & Tutors Wanted!

A-OK (Assisting Our Kids) Mentoring-Tutoring Program needs adult volunteers to work in Howard County schools, grades K-8, and after-school programs. A-OK works with several schools including Oakland Mills MS, Phelps Luck, Stevens Forest and Talbott Springs ES. For more info, call Chaya Kaplan 410-730-6030 or email [aokmentor@gmail.com](mailto:aokmentor@gmail.com)

## BRAC Corner!

Are you a business owner interested in becoming a contractor or already a Defense Contractor looking for additional information? The BRAC Business Initiative (BBI) is inviting businesses interested in accessing government contracting opportunities and becoming a qualified prime or sub-contractor to register with the BBI's new Match-Up Database. A number of defense contractors and government agencies are already using the Match-Up Database to determine which BBI businesses may possess the capabilities they require. Many companies registered in the Database have already been selected to meet with large prime contractors to partner and increase business.

The database is **FREE** of charge and open to all local companies interested in generating more business within the defense community. The Match-Up Database can be found at [www.bbimatchup.com](http://www.bbimatchup.com) and registering in the database automatically makes a company a member of the BBI.

The next upcoming event is Cyber 2.01 – The Direct and Indirect Effect (Part #1) on September 9, 2011 7:30am-1pm in the John Hopkins Applied Physics Lab. Registration is \$80 for BBI Members/\$100 non-members. BBI companies can register at [www.howardchamber.com](http://www.howardchamber.com). Keynote Speakers include: Rear Admiral Michael Brown, Director, Cybersecurity Coordination (US Navy), Jennifer Walsmith, Senior Acquisition Executive (National Security Agency), Robert Giesler, Senior Vice President/Cyber Security Director (SAIC), and Stephen A. Lopez, Vice President for Intelligence Support Operations (URS Corporation).

For any questions on the BBI or our monthly update meetings, call **Raj Kudchadkar** at 410-313-6376 or email [rkudchadkar@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:rkudchadkar@howardcountymd.gov).



## Howard County Safety... Helpful Hints!

- **Experiencing an Emergency?** Dial 9-1-1
- **Want to report an incident, non-emergency?** Call 410-313-2200
- **Need to report drug activity?** Call 410-290-3784 or email [ACunningham@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:ACunningham@howardcountymd.gov)
- **Want to make an anonymous tip** (e.g. child abuse, violence, gangs, gambling, school incidents, underage drinking, damage to property etc.)? Call 410-313-7867 or email [GangTips@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:GangTips@howardcountymd.gov)
- **Want to report gun crimes?** Call 410-313-7867 or email [CToler@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:CToler@howardcountymd.gov).
- **Do you need Victim Assistance?** Call 410-313-3712 or email [KMasterson@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:KMasterson@howardcountymd.gov)
- **Interested in a FREE Home Security Survey?** Call 410-313-4795 and leave a message to make an appointment. For more info, call the Special Operations Bureau at 410-313-3758 or visit [www.co.ho.md.us/police/pd\\_homesurvey.htm](http://www.co.ho.md.us/police/pd_homesurvey.htm)
- **Want to start a Neighborhood Watch?** Call the Community Services Section at 410-313-4780.
- **Looking to prevent Auto Theft?** Helpful tips available at [www.co.ho.md.us/Police/pd\\_autotheft.htm](http://www.co.ho.md.us/Police/pd_autotheft.htm)
- **Want to report an animal cruelty incidence or report unwanted pets, endangered animals, etc.?** Call 410-313-2780 or visit [www.howardcountymd.gov/police/animalcontrol.htm](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/police/animalcontrol.htm).
- **Are speeders in your neighborhood?** Consider the SMART Program initiative. Info available at [www.co.ho.md.us/Police/pd\\_smartprogram.htm](http://www.co.ho.md.us/Police/pd_smartprogram.htm)
- **Looking for personal safety tips?** Visit [www.co.ho.md.us/police/pd\\_personalsafety.htm](http://www.co.ho.md.us/police/pd_personalsafety.htm)
- **Interested in a Police Ride-Along?** Call 410-313-2208 for an application
- **Need a HCPD Spanish line?** Call 410-313-7807.
- **Interested in volunteering with the HCPD?** Call 410-313-2255
- **Interesting in HCPD Recruitment?** Call 410-313-4273.

In addition, the Columbia Association (CA) and the Howard County Police Department (HCPD) have joined forces to enhance the safety of our residents in Columbia and Howard County at large. Every month, safety tips and valuable information will be added to their newly formed website [www.howardcountysafety.org](http://www.howardcountysafety.org). I encourage residents to continuously check this site for helpful hints to protect yourself and property and potentially reduce crime through your efforts!

## Health Care Options For You or Your Family!

The “Door to HealthCare” provides for the consolidation of applications and application processes for the numerous health programs available for those who are under/uninsured. Individuals sit down with a counselor or work alone at a kiosk to enter personal data (including: family make0up, income, etc.) which will determine the programs for which you and/or family members are eligible. The information will quickly be transferred electronically into the proper application and the process is complete. Services provided include: MCHP, MA, PAC and the Healthy Howard Health Plan.

“The Door to HealthCare” is located to the rear of **7178 Columbia Gateway Drive in Columbia, MD**. For further information, call **410-988-3737**.

## Medicare Patients – Looking for a Local Doctor!

The Medicare.gov site is the place to find information about Medicare. The webpage provides detailed information about the basics of Medicare, resources, preventative health care and much more. If you’re looking for a local doctor who accepts Medicare, visit [www.Medicare.gov/find-a-doctor](http://www.Medicare.gov/find-a-doctor). Fill in your zipcode and any preferences you might have and instantly you will be given a list of providers in your area! For more details, call **1-800-MEDICARE**.

## Alzheimer’s Early-Stage Programs Now Available!

The Alzheimer’s Early-Stage Social Club meets Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:00am-1:00pm. Pre-screening is required. To reserve your space and/or for pre-screening, call **Judy Miller at 410-313-5441**. For more information on the Alzheimer’s association, call **1-800-272-3900** or visit [www.alz.org/maryland](http://www.alz.org/maryland).

## Recycling... Do's And Don'ts!

Ever wondered what is considered recyclable and what is not? You may be surprised to find out. For a complete list, visit [www.co.ho.md.us/DPW/docs/recycling\\_chart\\_web.pdf](http://www.co.ho.md.us/DPW/docs/recycling_chart_web.pdf) or call 410-313-6444. If it snows on your recycling day and recycling has been cancelled for the day, recyclables may be picked up on a slide schedule. For the most up-to-date information, call 410-313-7678 or visit [www.howardcountymd.gov/DPW/Environmental\\_Homepage.htm](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/DPW/Environmental_Homepage.htm).

## At-Large Members Needed for Community Advisory Council!

The Community Advisory Council to the Board of Education is currently seeking at-large members for the coming school year. The council sponsors educational programming for members and provides the opportunity to study and have input into curriculum, educational policy, redistricting and budget.

The committee meets at 7:30pm the third Tuesday of each month at the Department of Education, 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, MD. At-large members serve a two-year term to begin in August 2011. For more information, please call 410-313-6682 or email [tjmallo@verizon.net](mailto:tjmallo@verizon.net).

## How and When to Use the Emergency Room!

Remember in Howard County, there are a number of affordable alternatives to the Emergency Room if you are ill (coughs, colds, ear infections, minor burns, strains/sprains), but **not** experiencing a medical emergency. These "minute clinics" are a great resource to receive medical attention on a weekend, late night, or simply when your regular physician cannot see you. Many have extended and weekend hours and do not require appointments. Most accept insurance but please call the provider/clinic for details.

For a list of providers, visit <http://www.co.ho.md.us/health/docs/urgentcarecenterslist5-2010.pdf>. For additional information, contact our Health Department online at [http://www.co.ho.md.us/Health/HealthMain/Health\\_HomePage.htm](http://www.co.ho.md.us/Health/HealthMain/Health_HomePage.htm) or call 410-313-6300.

## Domestic Violence Center to Expand its Sexual Assault Services

The Domestic Violence Center (DVC) is pleased to announce a collaborative effort with the Howard County Police Department and the Child Advocacy Center (CAC) to expand DVC's sexual assault services with the hire of a Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Clinician who will be based at the CAC. For more details, call 410-997-0304 or visit [www.dvcenter.org](http://www.dvcenter.org).

## RECYCLE your old TV's!

The Howard County Bureau of Environmental Services would like to remind residents to recycle analog TV's rather than throw them away. Options: Alpha Ridge Landfill Resident's Convenience Area open 8am-4pm Mon-Sat and Best Buy's Customer Take-Back Program. For more info, call 410-313-6444.

## View the Council's Current Legislation and Stay Informed!

The County Council is responsible for adopting laws within Howard County. The legislative progress generally follows a monthly cycle. To view legislation under consideration by the Council, please click on the following link [http://www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/Legislative\\_Pending.htm](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/Legislative_Pending.htm)

## Boards and Commissions Vacancies!

Howard County is well known for our active and informed residents which I proudly represent. Howard County Boards and Commissions bring meaning to “government of the people, by the people and for the people.” They provide a vital link between our citizens and the officials who serve them.

Persons interested in applying for a Board or Commission are invited to submit a current resume along with a cover letter highlighting interests or experience which would be beneficial to the Board or Commission to which application is being made. Letters should be addressed to: **County Executive, 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043.**

As vacancies occur on the various boards or commissions, interviews are scheduled with interested parties. For current vacancies and special requirements, please call **Eileen Weber**, County Executive Office at **410-313-2013**.

## Commissioners Wanted for HC Commission on Disability Issues!

The Howard County Commission on Disability Issues is currently accepting applications for individuals interested in serving a five-year term as a Commissioner. To be eligible for consideration, candidates must be a Howard County resident, 18 years of age or older, have an interest in disability issues and be able to attend the Commission’s meetings on the third Monday of each month from 6-8:30pm.

Applicants must submit a resume and a brief letter explaining why they want to serve on the Commission to: **Howard County Government, Department of County Administration, Attn: Susan Smith-Bauk, 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043.** The names of approved candidates will be sent to the County Executive, who will then submit his recommendations to the County Council for confirmation.

For more information, call **Joyce Lehrer** at **410-313-6431** or email [jlehrer@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:jlehrer@howardcountymd.gov).

## In Need of Crisis Intervention?

Grassroots is a private, non-profit agency serving Howard County and Central Maryland and empowers people in crisis to make positive changes by offering professional 24-hour crisis intervention, shelter and outreach services.

Grassroots provides programs and services including a 24-hour crisis intervention hotline, Maryland Crisis Hotline, Walk-in Counseling, Mobile Crisis Team, Suicide Prevention, outreach and education, a 33-bed Family Shelter, an 18-bed Men’s Shelter, a Motel Shelter, Cold Weather Shelter and Day Resource Center.

Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center, Inc. is located at 6700 Freetown Road, Columbia, MD 21044. For more information, please call **410-531-6006** or visit their website online at [www.grassrootscrisis.org](http://www.grassrootscrisis.org). The 24-hour line is **410-531-6677** and the MD Crisis Hotline is **1-800-422-0009**.

## Transparency in Our Government!

If you believe there has been an instance of fraud, waste, and/or abuse in our government, we want to hear from you! Allegations of Fraud, Waste and Abuse in Howard County Government should be submitted to the Howard County Auditor’s Office. All submittals are encrypted and password protected for security. We treat all allegations in a confidential matter and we’ll do our very best to safeguard your identity!

To report an allegation, visit [www.howardcountymd.gov/Auditor/Auditor\\_FraudAlertForm.asp](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/Auditor/Auditor_FraudAlertForm.asp). If you do not wish to disclose your identity, you may remain anonymous by leaving blank those fields requesting personal information. You should be aware that remaining anonymous may preclude a thorough investigation of your allegation due to insufficient information.

For more information, email [hcaudit@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:hcaudit@howardcountymd.gov) or call **410-313-2005**.

## Reverse Mortgage Counseling to Residents 62 and Older!

The Howard County Office on Aging, through Maryland Access Point (MAP), is offering Reverse Mortgage Counseling to Maryland residents ages 62 and older who are considering this as an option. The counseling is targeted to seniors who may be able to pay for their everyday expenses but are struggling to cover the costs of health care, home repairs and modifications, increased property taxes and other unexpected expenses.

To Schedule a counseling session or learn more about the costs and features of a reverse mortgage, call MAP of Howard County's toll free number: **1-800-506-5806**.

## How You Can Participate in Howard County Government!

This is your opportunity to stay informed and get involved! Your comments are always welcome as the County Council reviews legislation. You may testify in person or simply submit your testimony by email or fax.

All legislative public hearings will take place in the **Board of Education, Board Room A, 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, MD 21042**. Click on the following link for the Council's calendar of meetings

[http://www.co.ho.md.us/CountyCouncil/CC\\_Legislative\\_CouncilCalendar.htm](http://www.co.ho.md.us/CountyCouncil/CC_Legislative_CouncilCalendar.htm)

Dr. Calvin Ball  
Howard County Council  
District 2  
3430 Courthouse Drive  
Ellicott City, MD 21043

[cball@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:cball@howardcountymd.gov)

[http://www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/CC\\_DistrictTwo.htm](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/CC_DistrictTwo.htm)

### I Want to Hear From You!

The link below will navigate you to a list of upcoming Council meetings open to the public. If you have specific questions, please call the contact number listed for that meeting.

[http://www.co.ho.md.us/News/HCG\\_Portal\\_PublicMeetings.htm](http://www.co.ho.md.us/News/HCG_Portal_PublicMeetings.htm)

*"Our ways of handling power differences and diverse points of view and cultures should be models of the civic life we wish to engender in our communities. Encouraging the articulation of differences, and then finding areas for collaboration, should be the norm rather than the exception."*

**Zelda Gamson**